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SOVIET ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: 1928-54
Part III. Foreign Trade

This report was prepared as part of the US contribution to a NATO study comparing economic trends in the Free World and in the Sino-Soviet bloc. The other two parts of the study which relate to the Soviet Union are: Part I, National Accounts Analysis and Part II, Manpower and Physical Production.

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SOVIET ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: 1928-54

Part III. FOREIGN TRADE

A. General Trends in Soviet Foreign Trade

In the prewar period foreign trade of the USSR was small relative both to world trade and to total output in the Soviet Union. In 1928 the value of Soviet trade turnover (exports plus imports) was \$1587.6 million,¹ and in 1937 \$1741.5 million. Although trade increased for a short period during the First Five-Year Plan (1928-32), it returned to a low level by 1937 partly as a result of conscious efforts to minimize dependence on relations with the "capitalist" countries and partly as a result of difficulties which appeared in markets for the principal Soviet export products.

The postwar period has been marked by a sharp expansion of Soviet foreign trade. Whereas the value of this trade was \$1741.5 million in 1937 and \$1849.9 million in 1948, by 1953 it had risen to \$5,750.0 million. Soviet trade rose to 3.5 percent of total world trade in 1953 from 1.5 percent in 1937. Foreign trade turnover as a percent of the Soviet gross national product, however, has increased very little. Whereas trade turnover was about 2.2 percent of the gross national product in 1937, in 1953 it was about 4.5 percent.

1. Soviet Trade with the Free World and the Bloc. The postwar expansion in Soviet foreign trade has occurred almost exclusively with countries now comprising the Soviet bloc. This suggests that autarky continues to be a major element in Soviet economic policy, but that self-sufficiency of the bloc rather than of the USSR alone has become the goal. Economic integration with other bloc countries, however, had not proceeded very rapidly by 1953.

Whereas Soviet trade with bloc countries amounted to \$132.2 million or 7.6 percent of total Soviet trade in 1937, in 1948 it amounted to \$847.6 million or 45.8 percent and in 1953 to \$4,947.2 million or 86 percent of the total. The trend of Soviet trade with free world countries has been the reverse. This trade amounted to \$1,609.3 million in 1937 or 92.4 percent of the total, but it amounted only to \$1,002.4 million in 1948 or 54.2 percent of the total and to \$802.8 million or 14 percent of the total in 1953. Data indicate that the free world had a slightly larger share of Soviet trade in 1954, when such trade with the free world reached a postwar peak (slightly above the 1948 level). Trade with free world countries reached its lowest absolute level in 1950, when it amounted to \$626.3 million or 36.9 percent of the 1937 level.

1. All value figures in this section are presented in 1953 US dollars.

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Soviet spokesmen have bitterly attacked free world strategic export controls, initiated in 1948 and 1949, citing them as the major cause of the postwar decline in USSR's trade with the free world. A more important reason for this decline, however, appears to have been the lack of suitable Soviet exports. As noted above, Soviet trade with the free world was well below the prewar level in 1948, before strategic controls had become effective. The decline in value of Soviet exports in the postwar period has been more pronounced than the decline in imports. In 1950, for example, Soviet exports to the free world were only 29.9 percent of their value in 1937, while imports were 50.0 percent of their 1937 value. The USSR has had an import balance in its trade with the free world throughout the postwar period.

2. General Commodity Composition. A large proportion of Soviet exports to the free world, both in the prewar and postwar periods, has been found consisted of three major categories: grain, timber, and furs. Large-scale exports of petroleum have occurred in a few years. Imports from the free world have been predominantly manufactured goods, especially machinery and transport equipment. Soviet trade with bloc countries, on the other hand, has consisted largely in exports of machinery and industrial raw materials, with grain delivered to some of the industrial satellites. Imports from the bloc appear to be principally manufactured goods, especially metal and machinery products, but also consumers' goods, combined with agricultural or extractive products from the less developed satellites. Little is known about the relative importance of different products in intra-bloc trade because few official figures have been published since 1943.

B. Soviet Trade with the Free World^{1/}

1. Geographic Distribution. Along with the decline in the value of over-all free world trade with the USSR in the postwar period, there has been a shift in the pattern of this trade. Whereas NATO countries absorbed \$715.3 million or 80.6 percent of Soviet exports to the free world in 1937, by 1948 this share had fallen to \$293.5 million or 65.5 percent. This percentage has remained fairly constant since 1948. The shift was even more marked in imports; while NATO countries accounted for \$541.7 million of Soviet imports or 75.0 percent of imports from the free world in 1937, in 1948 they accounted for only \$128.5 million or 23.1 percent. By 1953, NATO countries accounted for \$172.8 million or 38.5 percent of the total -- still far below the prewar figure. The principal reasons for this shift are the virtual cessation of trade

1. All value figures in section B are presented in 1953 US dollars. See Appendix for statistical details on geographic distribution (Tables 3-5) and commodity composition (Tables 6-8).

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with postwar Germany until 1953, a generally lower level of trade with the UK, and a marked decline in trade with the US, especially in Soviet imports. The decreased percentage share of NATO countries in the USSR's imports in the postwar period also reflects, to some extent, restrictions on exports to the USSR by these countries.

The decline in NATO's share in Soviet trade has been accompanied by a sharp increase in the share of non-NATO European countries. Whereas the share of the latter in Soviet trade in 1937 was \$112.8 million or 7.0 percent of the USSR's total turnover with the free world, in 1948 it was \$316.5 million or 31.6 percent of the total. In 1953 the non-NATO European countries accounted for \$279.9 million or 34.9 percent of total Soviet trade with the free world.

The increase in the share of non-NATO European countries in Soviet trade reflects, in large part, the emergence of Finland as one of the USSR's major free world trading partners. Finland's share of Soviet exports to the free world in 1937 amounted to \$8.7 million or 1.0 percent of the total, while in 1948 it was \$49.7 million or 11.1 percent, and in 1953 \$89.6 million or 25.4 percent. Finland's share of Soviet imports in 1937 amounted to \$5.7 million or 1.0 percent of the total, while in 1948 it amounted to \$142.6 million (including reparations deliveries) or 25.7 percent and in 1953 \$145.5 million or 32.4 percent. Reparations deliveries have been an important factor in the expansion of this trade. Finland expanded its metal and shipbuilding industries in order to make these deliveries. Even after its reparations deliveries were completed in 1952, the USSR continued to absorb almost the whole output of the expanded industries. This market was highly attractive to Finland since these industries could not compete successfully with their Western counterparts. Thus reparations were instrumental in the USSR's acquisition of a new and important trade tie. Finland has served the USSR as an important free world source of a few strategic goods denied to it by NATO countries.

The Soviet Union has usually had substantial export surpluses in its trade with the UK, and these sterling earnings have been spent on imports from other sterling area countries. The only other multilateral trade relations of importance arise from the USSR import balances in trade with Finland which have in large part been compensated by net Finnish imports from the satellite countries, payment for which is cleared through the USSR State Bank under a series of trilateral trade and payments agreements.

The percentage share of non-European areas^{1/} of the free world in Soviet trade has generally been larger in the postwar period than in the interwar period. Whereas in 1937 Soviet trade turnover with these areas

1. Excluding the U.S. and Canada.

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amounted to \$159.3 million or 9.9 percent of the USSR's total free world trade, in 1948 it rose to \$264.1 million or 26.3 percent of the total. Although the absolute value of this trade dropped to \$158.0 million in 1950, it represented 28.3 percent of the USSR's trade turnover with free world countries. By 1953, the value of this trade had declined to \$122.3 million, representing 15.2 percent of this turnover. Data for 1954 indicate that this downward trend in USSR trade with non-European areas since 1948 was at least temporarily reversed.

The decline in Soviet trade with non-European areas between 1948 and 1953 was concentrated in the Far East. Whereas Far Eastern trade with the USSR amounted to \$147.7 million or 75.4 percent of total non-European trade with the USSR in 1949, in 1952 it amounted to only \$34.8 million or 23.0 percent of the total. The decline appears due primarily to an increase in Soviet purchases of Far Eastern products from the United Kingdom as re-exports. Between 1951 and 1953, the Near East and Africa led the non-European areas in trade with the USSR.

In the postwar period, as in the interwar period, Latin America has had the lowest level of trade with the USSR among the non-European areas. In 1952, for example, Latin America accounted for only 0.2 million dollars or 0.1 percent of the trade of non-European areas with the USSR. This trade showed signs of revival in 1953 when Latin American exports to the USSR rose to more than \$13 million. Latin American-Soviet trade rose sharply in 1954.

As noted above, the percentage share of non-European areas of the free world in the USSR's trade, though generally higher than in the prewar period, is still low when compared with Western Europe. As the USSR becomes increasingly industrialized, there may well be some shift in Soviet trade to these areas. Political factors appears to favor such a shift. The USSR's expanded trade with other Communist-dominated areas, which, with a few notable exceptions, are underdeveloped areas, may serve to brake such a shift, however.

2. Commodity Composition.

a. Soviet Exports to the Free World. Soviet exports to the free world have been concentrated in a few commodity categories. Foodstuffs and raw materials were the two chief commodity groups before World War II as well as in the postwar years. In 1928 they constituted 60 percent of all Soviet exports. In the period 1936 to 1938 exports of foodstuffs and raw materials to the free world constituted 42 percent of total exports.

During the period 1948-53, despite the concentration on rapid industrialization of the country, the Soviet Union exported an even higher proportion of foodstuffs and raw materials to the free world. In 1952 the share of these two categories reached 84 percent. The percentage distribution for other postwar years is indicated in the following table:

PERCENT OF TOTAL EXPORTS TO THE FREE WORLD

	Foodstuffs	Crude Materials	Total
1948	38.4	18.5	56.9
1949	42.6	25.6	68.1
1950	38.0	34.8	72.9
1951	42.5	31.7	74.2
1952	63.2	20.6	83.8
1953	41.2	33.7	74.9

This proportion would be somewhat higher if mineral fuels were included with crude materials. Their share in total Soviet exports to the free world has been increasing since 1950, though it was still below the prewar ratio in 1953.

i. Exports of foodstuffs. During the postwar years (1948-53) Soviet exports of foodstuffs to the free world were subject to considerable fluctuations, but they led the exports of all other commodity groups reaching their highest value, \$274 million, in 1952. In terms of volume Soviet food exports to the free world that year were twice the prewar level of 1936-38, and two and one-half times the level of 1950. In the same year exports of foods were ten times as high as the imports. The principal commodities exported to the free world were bread grains, coarse grains, sugar, and animal feed. There was a notable decline in exports of animal and vegetable fats and oils.

ii. Exports of crude materials and mineral fuels. Exports of crude materials to the free world in the postwar period (1948-53) were below the prewar volume but have been increasing. In 1953 they almost reached the prewar (1936-38) average. In 1950 to 1953 they accounted for one-third of USSR exports to the free world. Timber products are the principal commodities in this group.

Exports of mineral fuels and related products have increased since 1950. In 1952 they reached a level three times and in 1953 almost four times that of 1950, but were still far below the prewar average in their respective share in total exports.

iii. Other exports. Exports of machinery and equipment were relatively small. From 1949-52 they averaged less than \$2 million annually and remained below the prewar level, although their volume

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doubled between 1950 and 1953. Exports of manufactured goods to the free world, although rising since 1950, remained below the prewar level. Relatively, this category has not been significant among Soviet exports. Also the exports of fats and oils were below the prewar level and their volume negligible. Exports of chemicals were relatively small. Since 1951 they averaged less than \$2 million annually.

b. Soviet imports. The commodity composition of Soviet postwar imports is similar in some respects to that of prewar imports, but quite different from the typical composition of Soviet exports. In the annual averages for 1936-38, one-third of the imports consisted of machinery and transport equipment, and almost 30 percent of other manufactured goods. Thus the categories of manufactured goods, including chemicals, during the prewar period, made up two-thirds of all imports from the free world.

This situation changed somewhat in the postwar period. Crude materials became the leading category among imports from the free world, except for 1951 when imports of machinery and equipment were larger. The share of crude materials ranged from 29 percent to 43 percent of imports from the free world, while that of machinery and equipment ranged from 19 percent to 39 percent for various postwar years. These categories include strategic raw materials as well as ships.

The Soviet Union is essentially a net exporter of foodstuffs. Imports in this category during 1948-52 ranged from two to ten percent of the total imports from the free world. During 1949-51 food imports were less than \$15 million annually, while exports of food were \$90 to \$160 million and represented 40 percent of exports to the West. There was a notable increase in food imports in 1952 and 1953. In 1952 the volume of food imports reached the prewar (1936-38) average, and in 1953 it reached almost double that amount and constituted 20 percent of all imports from the free world. Their value in 1953 was \$91 million (compared to food exports valued at \$150 million in that year).

Food imports from the free world during 1952-53 consisted chiefly of meat, butter, fish, and cheese, products consumed by the growing industrial population. However, these imports were a small fraction of domestic output, and were in some cases (especially butter) intended for re-export to the satellites.

Soviet postwar imports of mineral fuels, chemicals, fats and oils, beverages, and tobacco from the free world were relatively small. Their combined value in 1953 reached \$20.8 million, constituting less than 5 percent of total Soviet imports from the free world.

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C. Soviet Trade with the Bloc.

1. Geographic Distribution.^{1/} In prewar years the principal trade partners of the USSR among bloc countries were China and East Germany,^{2/} which together accounted for about 75 percent of the USSR total.^{3/} Of the remainder, Poland and Czechoslovakia were the only trading partners of any importance. It may be noted that the relative importance of these countries was similar in 1937 and in 1951-53.

By 1948 the volume of Soviet trade with bloc countries was almost six times the 1937 level, and by 1950 it was 17 times and in 1953 37 times the previous volume. In 1948 and 1949 over 90 percent of this trade was with European satellites, Czechoslovakia and Poland being the principal traders. Trade with China was negligible in 1948-49, was revived in 1950, and in 1951 rose abruptly to over \$1 billion, making China the largest trade partner of the USSR, a position maintained to date. Trade with the European satellites also grew rapidly, and from 1951-53 constituted 70 percent of USSR trade with the bloc. Trade with Poland and Czechoslovakia continued large, but since 1950 these countries have been surpassed by East Germany, which has become the second largest trading partner of the USSR.

As noted above, China and East Germany have led the bloc countries in trade with the USSR since 1951, as in the prewar period. Since 1951 China's percentage share in Soviet trade has been about the same as in the prewar period. While China's trade with the USSR in 1937 amounted to \$17.2 million or 28.3 percent of USSR trade with bloc countries, it was \$1,215.0 million or 28.6 percent of this trade in 1953. East Germany's percentage share in Soviet trade with bloc countries has been lower in the postwar period than the estimated prewar value, though it has been increasing steadily since 1948. The East German share of Soviet trade with Germany in 1937 amounted to \$28.3 million, or 46.7 percent of USSR trade with bloc countries; in 1948 trade with East Germany was \$92.5 million or 10.6 percent of USSR-bloc trade, and in 1953 \$915.0 million or 21.0 percent.

Czechoslovakia and Poland have maintained their prewar position as important trade partners of the USSR among the bloc countries. Their percentage share in Soviet trade with these countries has been larger in most of the postwar period than before the war, but it has dropped steadily since 1948. Soviet trade with Czechoslovakia amounted to \$9.7 million or 16.0 percent of the USSR's trade with the bloc countries in

1. All value figures in section C are in current US dollars. See Appendix (Table 9-10) for statistical details.

2. Figures on Soviet prewar trade with East Germany are calculated from data on total German trade with the USSR. See Appendix.

3. Excluding Outer Mongolia and North Korea.

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in 1937; in 1948 it was \$228.7 million or 26.2 percent of this trade, and in 1953 \$594.0 million or 14.0 percent.

Hungary, Rumania, and Bulgaria have emerged as trade partners of the USSR in the postwar period. While trade with these countries was negligible before World War II, in 1948 it amounted to \$242.3 million or 27.7 percent of the USSR's trade with bloc countries, and in 1953 to \$863.0 million or 20.3 percent of this trade.

Trade with Albania increased steadily in the postwar period reaching \$24.0 million or 0.7 percent of USSR trade with bloc countries in 1951. No data on this trade are available after that year. Such trade was negligible in the prewar period.

Trade with Asiatic bloc countries other than China has never been large. In 1937 trade with Mongolia (included with China) was 24.7 percent of Soviet trade with bloc countries (no breakdown of China's trade is available for 1928), but in the postwar years was a smaller fraction of the increased total. Trade turnover with North Korea increased from \$63.5 million, or 5.7 percent of USSR-bloc trade in 1949, to \$171 million (8.5 percent) in 1950; subsequent figures are not available.

The figures in the Appendix exclude postwar reparations payments to the USSR from ex-allies of Germany. These were large relative to total trade; reparations payments from Hungary and Rumania, after a downward revision in 1948, amounted to \$120 million and \$146 million respectively in the years 1945-53. Reparations deliveries from East Germany, prior to their cancellation in 1953, were \$4.3 billion. These are all expressed in prewar values, and the figures should be at least doubled to obtain equivalents at the time of delivery. In addition; there were items such as payments of occupation costs, income from USSR properties located in ex-enemy satellites, removals of property, etc. which added considerably to the flow of goods to the Soviet Union. By 1954 these payments had largely ended, having been gradually replaced by commercial trade.

2. Commodity Composition

a. Prewar trade. In the prewar period about one-half of the value of USSR exports to the areas now comprising the Sino-Soviet bloc consisted of manufactures; primarily textile, leather and rubber manufactures. Next in importance were crude materials, and beverages and tobacco, which accounted for about 27 percent of Soviet exports. To these areas, the USSR also exported some chemicals, mineral fuels, machinery and equipment but on a smaller scale.

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The principal commodity category imported by the USSR from the areas now comprising the Sino-Soviet bloc was crude materials, which made up about 48 percent of the value of such imports. Manufactures, largely composed of iron and steel shapes, machinery and equipment, accounted for about 28 percent of total imports from other bloc countries.

b. Postwar trade. Available data on the commodity composition of Soviet trade in the postwar period indicate increases in exports to the Sino-Soviet bloc of industrial equipment, agricultural machinery, and crude materials. Primarily this has been the result of increased satellite industrialization and the emergence of the USSR as a major supplier to the satellites of industrial equipment.

To some bloc countries, such as Poland and Communist China, the Soviet Union has exported complete equipment for industrial installations. The USSR has also exported heavy construction equipment, oil drilling and coal mining equipment, and other engineering goods.

Soviet supplies of raw materials to the Sino-Soviet bloc have increased with the expansion in requirements of industrial materials for the growing industries of these countries. The USSR has been the main supplier to Eastern Europe of iron ore, scrap, pig iron, manganese and chrome ores, and nonferrous metals. Although the bulk of Soviet exports of raw materials has gone to heavy industries, raw materials, particularly cotton, for the light industries have been important.

Soviet agricultural machinery, such as tractors, harvester-combines, and other farm machinery, has been exported to the bloc countries in increasing quantities to support the program of mechanization of agriculture within the area. In addition, the USSR has become the main grain exporter to the region, supplying the European satellites with between two and three million tons annually.

Although the USSR has supplied complete industrial equipment for specific industrial projects within the bloc, it has also been a large importer of specialized types of machinery and equipment from the area. It receives at least one-half of its imports of machinery and equipment from East Germany and a large share from Czechoslovakia and Hungary. With industrial development the Soviet Union has become a vast market for most types of products of the satellite engineering industries. Much of the bloc's output of railway rolling stock and other transport equipment has been imported by the USSR to supplement the development of its transportation facilities.

Soviet imports of ships from several of the bloc countries have increased in importance. Larger types of ships have come principally from East Germany and Poland. The Soviet Union imports approximately three-fourths of East Germany's total output of ocean-going vessels and

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marine equipment. In addition, it imports fishing boats, barges, and smaller vessels from other European satellites.

The USSR has also imported manufactured consumers' goods from the satellites. For example, it has received textiles, shoes, glassware, and furniture from Czechoslovakia and Poland. In some instances, raw materials have been exported by the USSR to the satellites and have been returned in the form of finished consumers' goods.

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Appendix

Methodology Used in Statistical Tables on USSR Foreign Trade

The US Department of Commerce is the source of published figures for Soviet trade with free world countries; these were derived from official trade statistics of free world countries trading with the USSR. This is also the source of prewar data on the USSR's trade with countries which now comprise the bloc. Data on postwar Soviet trade with the bloc were based on miscellaneous statements in official bloc publications.

Postwar trade data have been adjusted, where necessary, so as to place bloc exports on an f.o.b. (free on board) basis and bloc imports on a c.i.f. (cost, insurance, freight) basis. For example, Soviet export data taken from the import statistics of a European country have been adjusted downward by 5 percent. Export data obtained from the import statistics of a non-European country have been adjusted downward by 10 percent. Conversely, import data taken from the export statistics of a European country have been adjusted upward by 5 percent. Import data taken from the statistics of a non-European country have been adjusted upward by 10 percent.

Except in 1928, trade data are for the calendar year -- January through December. For 1928, trade data are for the period October 1927 through September 1928. In the commodity composition table, data are presented for an annual average of the years 1936-38 rather than for 1937.

In prewar years, West German exports have been taken as 79 percent of total German exports and West German imports as 74 percent of total German imports. This is an OIR estimate based on data in the Economic Bulletin for Europe, Vol. 1, No. 3 (third quarter 1949), p. 26.

The following index for unit value of world trade was used to convert all values from current to constant 1953 dollars in Tables 1, 2, and 4, and the volume indexes presented in Tables 1, 2, and 8 were based on a similar calculation of values in constant 1953 dollars. The index values for 1937 and post-war years were taken from the UN Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, August 1954, p. xviii, with the base year shifted

1953	100
1952	106
1951	108
1950	89
1949	97
1948	103
1937	46
1928	66

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from 1948 to 1953. The 1928 index value was derived from Table 134, pp. 341-4 of the UN Statistical Yearbook for 1948, using 1928/1937 relative unit values for the trade of the US, UK, and Germany, the principal traders with the USSR in those years (no index for world trade was available for 1928).

Annual totals in Table 6 (commodity composition of USSR trade with free world countries) are not identical with those in Table 3 (geographical distribution) for several reasons: (a) the totals in the tables on commodity composition include classified data on trade with a few countries in 1953, while those on geographic distribution do not. (b) The data on geographic distribution include the latest Department of Commerce statistical revisions while the data on commodity composition do not. (c) In adjusting exports to an f.o.b. basis and imports to a c.i.f. basis, minor discrepancies due to rounding, were introduced. (d) Prewar data on commodity composition do not include the trade of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia while such data on geographic distribution do. (e) 1928 data on commodity composition include Soviet trade with bloc countries while data on geographic distribution do not.

In Table 9 two figures are given for total trade turnover of the USSR with other bloc countries in 1951, 1952, and 1953. The first figures are the sum of the estimates of trade with individual bloc countries (not all of which are available). The second figures were obtained by subtracting the value of Soviet trade with the free world, as derived from Department of Commerce statistics, from official Soviet trade turnover figures, converted to dollars at the official ruble-dollars exchange rate. In 1953 this involved subtracting \$802.8 million from \$5,750.0 million; in 1952 it involved subtracting \$948.4 million from \$5,200.0 million; and in 1951 \$778.1 million from \$4,500.0 million. The Soviet trade turnover figures were taken from page 6, Current Digest of the Soviet Press, Vol. 6, No. 49, January 1955. Since these alternative figures for Soviet trade turnover with bloc countries are considered more reliable than the sum of individual country estimates, they have been used in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 9 excludes Outer Mongolia. Data on Soviet trade with this area are fragmentary and, if included, would have a disturbing effect on total values and percentage distribution.

Soviet trade with Outer Mongolia in 1937 amounted to one-third the total value of the USSR's trade with other bloc countries. The absence of Outer Mongolia in postwar trade figures is less significant because the intra-bloc trade totals were much larger than prewar values.

Such data as are available on USSR trade with Outer Mongolia are given below (in millions of current US dollars):

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	<u>Exports of Outer Mongolia</u>	<u>Imports of Outer Mongolia</u>
1928	--	--
1937	13.2	6.7
1948	--	--
1949	--	--
1950	--	--
1951	40.6	--
1952	--	39.8
1953	--	43.6

Source of above data: 1937 figures were taken from the Foreign Commerce Yearbook, 1939. Postwar data were taken from FBIS Abstract, March 23, 1954, CONFIDENTIAL.

Although data on Soviet trade turnover with bloc countries are available for 1952 and 1953, a breakdown by exports and imports is not. For this reason export and import data in Table 1 go only as far as 1951 and Table 9 gives values only for trade turnover in 1952 and 1953.

All values below \$50,000 are indicated as negligible (negl.) in the tables. Values of \$50,000 or more are rounded to the nearest hundred thousand.

In the absence of price data on intra-bloc trade, values in Table 9 (geographic distribution of USSR trade with the bloc) were not converted to constant 1953 dollars. Where intra-bloc trade values were converted to 1953 dollars and volume indices constructed, as in Tables 1 and 2, the results should not be regarded as very reliable.

Because of the paucity of quantitative data, no table on the commodity composition of Soviet trade with the bloc could be constructed.

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Table 1. USSR FOREIGN TRADE TURNOVER AND TRADE BALANCE

Year	Total Trade Turnover	Exports	Imports	Indicated Balance
<u>A. Millions of Current Dollars</u>				
1928	1,047.8	452.4	595.4	-143.0
1937	801.0	438.3	362.7	+ 75.6
1948	1,905.3	883.9	1,021.4	-137.5
1949 *	2,065.8	895.0	1,107.3	-212.3
1950 *	2,566.4	1,125.9	1,269.5	-143.6
1951 *	4,500.0	2,096.4	1,896.5	+199.9
1952	5,200.0	n.a. **	n.a. **	n.a. **
1953	5,750.0	n.a. **	n.a. **	n.a. **
<u>B. Constant 1953 Dollars</u>				
1928	1,587.6	685.5	902.1	-216.6
1937	1,741.3	952.8	788.5	+164.3
1948	1,849.9	858.2	991.7	-133.5
1949 *	2,129.6	922.7	1,141.5	-218.8
1950 *	2,883.5	1,265.0	1,426.4	-161.4
1951 *	4,166.7	1,941.1	1,756.0	+185.1
1952	4,905.6	n.a. **	n.a. **	n.a. **
1953	5,750.0	n.a. **	n.a. **	n.a. **
<u>C. Percentages</u>				
1928	100	43.2%	56.8%	--
1937	100	54.7%	45.3%	--
1948	100	46.4%	53.6%	--
1949 *	100	44.7%	55.3%	--
1950 *	100	47.0%	53.0%	--
1951 *	100	52.5%	47.5%	--
1952	100	n.a. **	n.a. **	--
1953	100	n.a. **	n.a. **	--
<u>D. Volume Index (1950=100) ***</u>				
1928	55	54	63	--
1937	60	75	55	--
1948	64	68	70	--
1949 *	74	73	80	--
1950 *	100	100	100	--
1951 *	144	153	123	--
1952	170	n.a. **	n.a. **	--
1953	199	n.a. **	n.a. **	--

See footnotes next page.

Footnotes to Table 1.

- * Exports and imports do not add up to total trade turnover in the years 1949-51. Trade turnover figures for 1949 and 1950 include North Korea, while export and import figures do not. No breakdown of USSR trade with North Korea, by exports and imports is available for these years. In 1951 the total trade turnover figure was obtained by converting the officially announced Soviet trade turnover of 18 billion rubles into dollars at the official ruble-dollar exchange rate. Exports and imports, on the other hand, were obtained by adding estimates of the trade of individual bloc and free world countries with the USSR.
- ** A breakdown, by exports and imports, of USSR trade turnover with bloc countries in 1952 and 1953 is not available. Such a breakdown for USSR trade with the free world in those years is available, however. USSR exports to the free world amounted to \$436.1 million in 1952 and \$353.8 million in 1953. USSR imports from the free world amounted to \$512.3 million in 1952 and \$449.0 million in 1953.
- *** Index based on value figures in 1953 dollars.

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Table 2. USSR TRADE TURNOVER WITH THE FREE WORLD AND THE BLOC

Year	Free World	Intra Bloc	Total Trade Turnover
A. <u>Millions of Current Dollars</u>			
1928	895.2	152.6	1,047.8
1937	740.3	60.8	801.1
1948	1,032.5	873.0	1,905.5
1949	718.2	1,347.6	2,065.8
1950	557.4	2,009.0	2,566.4
1951	778.1	3,721.9	4,500.0
1952	948.4	4,251.6	5,200.0
1953	802.8	4,947.2	5,750.0
B. <u>Millions of 1953 Dollars</u>			
1928	1,356.4	231.2	1,587.6
1937	1,609.3	132.2	1,741.5
1948	1,002.4	847.6	1,850.0
1949	740.4	1,389.2	2,129.6
1950	626.3	2,257.3	2,883.6
1951	720.5	3,446.2	4,166.7
1952	894.7	4,010.9	4,905.6
1953	802.8	4,947.2	5,750.0
C. <u>Percent</u>			
1928	85.4	14.6	100
1937	92.4	7.6	100
1948	54.2	45.8	100
1949	34.8	65.2	100
1950	21.7	78.3	100
1951	17.3	82.7	100
1952	18.2	81.8	100
1953.	14.0	86.0	100
D. <u>Volume Index (1950=100) *</u>			
1928	217	10	55
1937	257	6	60
1948	160	38	64
1949	118	62	74
1950	100	100	100
1951	115	153	144
1952	143	178	170
1953	128	219	199

* Index based on value figures in 1953 dollars.

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Table 3. GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF USSR TRADE WITH THE FREE WORLD
(In millions of current dollars)

	1928	1937	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
A. USSR Exports								
<u>NATO Countries</u>								
Continental Europe	179.5	140.0	120.4	81.8	48.3	82.6	110.7	111.1
United Kingdom	108.3	158.8	103.8	49.2	91.1	160.1	154.7	106.1
United States	15.8	29.5	78.1	35.3	34.5	24.5	15.0	9.8
Canada	--	0.8	negl	negl	0.1	0.5	2.1	0.8
Sub-total	303.6	329.1	302.3	166.3	174.0	267.7	282.5	227.8
<u>Non-NATO Countries</u>								
Europe	20.6	33.6	97.8	43.1	30.3	57.4	99.5	99.6
Near East & Africa	42.2	21.4	44.9	11.3	25.0	36.5	50.0	21.7
Far East	14.1	7.5	15.6	40.0	6.4	5.6	4.0	4.6
Latin America	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.9	negl	0.1	0.1	0.1
Sub-total	77.3	63.0	159.1	95.3	61.7	99.6	153.6	126.0
Unspecified	9.1	15.2	--	--	--	--	--	--
TOTAL EXPORTS TO FREE WORLD	390.0	408.0	461.4	261.6	235.7	367.3	436.1	353.8
B. USSR Imports								
<u>NATO Countries</u>								
Continental Europe	189.3	119.7	71.6	89.2	57.1	64.3	83.2	136.8
United Kingdom	35.9	62.8	29.9	41.4	41.8	70.0	110.1	36.0
United States	108.3	55.7	30.8	7.3	0.9	0.1	negl	negl
Canada	5.9	11.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	negl	negl	negl
Sub-total	339.4	249.2	132.4	138.0	100.0	134.4	193.3	172.8
<u>Non-NATO Countries</u>								
Europe	33.1	18.3	228.0	180.8	95.1	167.9	212.6	180.3
Near East & Africa	49.0	17.2	70.4	25.0	36.7	43.7	73.6	37.0
Far East	35.0	22.5	126.7	103.3	88.7	64.5	32.7	45.3
Latin America	25.0	4.2	13.6	9.5	1.2	0.3	0.1	13.6
Sub-total	142.1	62.2	438.7	318.6	221.7	276.4	319.0	276.2
Unspecified	23.7	20.9	--	--	--	--	--	--
TOTAL IMPORTS FROM FREE WORLD	505.2	332.3	571.1	456.6	321.7	410.8	512.3	449.0

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Table 4. GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF USSR TRADE WITH THE FREE WORLD
(In millions of 1953 dollars)

	1928	1937	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
A. USSR Exports								
<u>NATO Countries</u>								
Continental Europe	272.0	304.3	116.9	84.4	54.3	76.5	104.4	111.1
United Kingdom	164.1	345.2	100.8	50.7	102.3	148.2	145.7	106.1
United States	23.9	64.1	75.8	36.4	38.8	22.7	14.2	9.8
Canada	--	1.7	negl	negl	0.1	0.5	2.0	0.8
Sub-total	460.0	715.3	293.5	171.5	195.5	247.9	266.3	227.8
<u>Non-NATO Countries</u>								
Europe	31.2	73.0	95.0	44.4	34.0	53.1	93.9	99.6
Near East & Africa	63.9	46.5	43.6	11.6	28.1	33.8	47.2	21.7
Far East	21.4	16.3	15.1	41.2	7.2	5.2	3.8	4.6
Latin America	0.6	1.1	0.8	0.9	negl	0.1	0.1	0.1
Sub-total	117.1	136.9	154.5	98.1	69.3	92.2	145.0	126.0
Unspecified	13.8	34.6	--	--	--	--	--	--
TOTAL EXPORTS TO FREE WORLD	590.9	886.8	448.0	269.6	264.8	340.1	411.3	353.8
B. USSR Imports								
<u>NATO Countries</u>								
Continental Europe	286.8	260.2	69.5	92.0	64.2	59.5	78.5	136.8
United Kingdom	54.4	136.5	29.0	42.7	47.0	64.8	103.9	36.0
United States	164.1	121.1	29.9	7.5	1.0	0.1	negl	negl
Canada	8.9	23.9	0.1	0.1	0.2	negl	negl	negl
Sub-total	514.2	541.7	128.5	142.3	112.4	124.4	182.4	172.8
<u>Non-NATO Countries</u>								
Europe	50.2	39.8	221.5	186.4	106.3	155.5	200.6	180.3
Near East & Africa	74.2	37.4	68.3	25.8	41.2	40.5	69.4	37.0
Far East	53.0	48.9	123.0	106.5	99.7	59.7	30.8	45.3
Latin America	37.9	9.1	13.2	9.8	1.3	0.3	0.1	13.6
Sub-total	215.3	135.2	426.0	328.5	249.0	256.0	300.9	276.2
Unspecified	35.9	45.4	--	--	--	--	--	--
TOTAL IMPORTS FROM FREE WORLD	765.4	722.3	554.5	470.8	361.4	380.4	483.3	449.0

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Table 5. GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF USSR TRADE WITH THE FREE WORLD
(Percent of total exports and imports)

	1928	1937	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
A. USSR Exports								
<u>NATO Countries</u>								
Continental Europe	46.0	34.3	26.1	31.3	20.5	22.5	25.4	31.4
United Kingdom	27.8	38.9	22.5	18.8	38.7	43.6	35.5	30.0
United States	4.1	7.2	16.9	13.5	14.6	6.7	3.4	2.8
Canada	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.2
Sub-total	77.9	80.6	65.5	63.6	73.8	72.9	64.8	64.4
<u>Non-NATO Countries</u>								
Europe	5.3	8.2	21.2	16.5	12.9	15.7	22.8	28.2
Near East & Africa	10.8	5.3	9.7	4.3	10.6	9.9	11.5	6.1
Far East	3.6	1.8	3.4	15.3	2.7	1.5	0.9	1.3
Latin America	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sub-total	19.8	15.4	34.5	36.4	26.2	27.1	35.2	35.6
Unspecified	2.3	4.0	--	--	--	--	--	--
TOTAL EXPORTS TO FREE WORLD	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
B. USSR Imports								
<u>NATO Countries</u>								
Continental Europe	37.5	36.0	12.5	19.5	17.8	15.7	16.2	30.5
United Kingdom	7.1	18.9	5.2	9.1	13.0	17.0	21.5	8.0
United States	21.3	16.8	5.4	1.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Canada	1.2	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sub-total	67.1	75.0	23.1	30.2	31.2	32.7	37.7	38.5
<u>Non-NATO Countries</u>								
Europe	6.6	5.5	39.9	39.6	29.5	40.9	41.5	40.2
Near East & Africa	9.7	5.2	12.4	5.5	11.4	10.6	14.4	8.2
Far East	6.9	6.8	22.2	22.6	27.5	15.7	6.4	10.1
Latin America	5.0	1.3	2.4	2.1	0.4	0.1	0.0	3.0
Sub-total	28.2	18.8	76.9	69.8	68.8	67.3	62.3	61.5
Unspecified	4.7	6.2	--	--	--	--	--	--
TOTAL IMPORTS FROM FREE WORLD	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

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Table 6. COMMODITY COMPOSITION OF USSR TRADE WITH THE FREE WORLD
(In millions of current dollars)

	1928	1936-38	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
<u>USSR Exports</u>								
Foodstuffs	111.2	61.2	179.7	114.6	91.5	157.3	274.2	149.4
Beverages and tobacco	0.0	2.3	3.0	2.8	3.9	7.2	1.0	2.6
Fats and oils	2.7	2.9	2.0	0.6	1.1	1.9	0.0	0.3
Crude materials	129.9	56.8	86.3	68.8	83.8	117.2	89.5	122.2
Mineral fuels	57.4	33.3	13.1	11.4	7.0	12.3	25.3	30.2
Chemicals	0.0	8.7	19.4	16.1	5.2	3.8	4.8	7.2
Machinery & equipment	0.0	5.4	10.8	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.6	3.4
Manufactures	37.4	94.7	65.0	31.6	27.0	28.4	35.2	45.9
Miscellaneous	<u>61.2</u>	<u>16.6</u>	<u>88.1</u>	<u>21.5</u>	<u>19.5</u>	<u>40.7</u>	<u>2.4</u>	<u>1.3</u>
Total Exports	399.8	281.9	467.4	269.2	240.5	370.3	434.0	362.5
<u>USSR Imports</u>								
Foodstuffs	36.2	21.9	30.8	14.6	11.9	9.3	50.5	91.2
Beverages and tobacco	19.0	5.0	44.1	10.0	0.7	19.8	3.7	3.5
Fats and oils	0.0	n.a.	19.9	16.6	5.2	8.2	5.7	10.7
Crude materials	178.0	54.0	226.5	181.1	124.9	136.3	215.9	128.2
Mineral fuels	0.0	2.3	2.1	negl	0.1	negl	negl	0.1
Chemicals	23.9	5.4	4.1	5.9	2.6	3.3	6.6	6.5
Machinery & equipment	102.5	85.7	102.2	152.9	119.9	140.8	137.1	113.1
Manufactures	81.9	75.2	93.3	55.6	31.9	22.3	81.8	92.6
Miscellaneous	<u>45.5</u>	<u>7.8</u>	<u>26.7</u>	<u>25.4</u>	<u>9.8</u>	<u>67.1</u>	<u>7.1</u>	<u>0.6</u>
Total Imports	487.0	257.3	549.7	462.1	307.0	407.1	508.4	446.5

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Table 7. COMMODITY COMPOSITION OF USSR TRADE WITH THE FREE WORLD
(Percent of country total)

	1928	1936-38	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
<u>SSR Exports</u>								
Foodstuffs	27.8	21.7	38.4	42.6	38.0	42.5	63.2	41.2
Beverages and tobacco	0.0	0.8	0.6	1.1	1.6	1.9	0.2	0.7
Fats and oils	0.7	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.1
Crude materials	32.5	20.1	18.5	25.6	34.8	31.7	20.6	33.7
Mineral fuels	14.4	11.8	2.8	4.2	2.9	3.3	5.8	8.3
Chemicals	0.0	3.1	4.2	6.0	2.2	1.0	1.1	2.0
Machinery & equipment	0.0	1.9	2.3	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.9
Manufactures	9.4	33.6	13.9	11.7	11.3	7.7	8.1	12.7
Miscellaneous	15.3	5.9	18.7	8.0	8.1	11.0	0.6	0.4
Total Exports	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<u>USSR Imports</u>								
Foodstuffs	7.4	8.5	5.6	3.2	3.9	2.3	9.9	20.4
Beverages and tobacco	3.9	1.9	8.0	2.2	0.2	4.9	0.7	0.8
Fats and oils	0.0	n.a.	3.6	3.6	1.7	2.0	1.1	2.4
Crude materials	36.6	21.0	41.2	39.2	40.7	33.5	42.5	28.7
Mineral fuels	0.0	0.9	0.4	0.0	0.0	n.a.	negl	negl
Chemicals	4.9	2.1	0.8	1.3	0.8	0.8	1.3	1.5
Machinery & equipment	21.0	33.3	18.6	33.1	39.1	34.6	27.0	25.3
Manufactures	16.8	29.2	17.0	12.0	10.4	5.5	16.1	20.7
Miscellaneous	9.3	3.0	4.9	5.5	3.2	16.5	1.4	0.1
Total Imports	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

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Table 8. COMMODITY COMPOSITION OF USSR TRADE WITH THE FREE WORLD
VOLUME INDEX, 1950 = 100

	1928	1936-38	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
<u>USSR Exports</u>								
Foodstuffs	104	129	170	115	100	142	252	145
Beverages and tobacco	0	114	66	66	100	152	21	59
Fats and oils	342	525	158	50	100	150	0	25
Crude materials	209	131	89	75	100	115	90	130
Mineral fuels	1,101	917	161	149	100	144	303	382
Chemicals	0	326	324	286	100	60	78	124
Machinery & equipment	0	688	618	112	100	82	88	200
Manufactures	187	679	208	108	100	87	110	152
Miscellaneous	423	165	390	101	100	172	11	6
Total Exports	224	227	168	103	100	127	152	134
<u>USSR Imports</u>								
Foodstuffs	409	355	223	113	100	64	355	681
Beverages and tobacco	3,600	1,362	5,350	1,287	100	2,229	438	438
Fats and oils	0	0	333	295	100	131	93	184
Crude materials	192	84	157	133	100	90	145	91
Mineral fuels	0	500	200	0	100	0	0	100
Chemicals	1,248	403	135	210	100	107	214	224
Machinery & equipment	115	138	74	117	100	97	96	84
Manufactures	347	457	253	160	100	58	216	259
Miscellaneous	626	154	236	238	100	565	61	6
Total Imports	214	162	155	138	100	109	139	130

Table 9. GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF USSR TRADE WITH THE BLOC₂
(In millions of current dollars)

	European Satellites							
	Albania	Bulgaria	Czechoslovakia	East Germany	Hungary	Poland	Romania	Sub-total
<u>1928</u>								
Imports	—	—	13.5	37.3	—	9.9	—	60.7
Exports	—	—	2.1	34.5	—	9.3	—	45.9
Turnover	—	—	15.6	71.8	—	19.2	—	106.6
<u>1937</u>								
Imports	—	—	4.9	14.3	—	2.4	—	21.6
Exports	—	—	4.8	14.1	—	3.1	—	22.0
Turnover	—	—	9.7	28.4	—	5.5	—	43.6
<u>1948</u>								
Imports	8.0	57.4	120.1	54.5	28.2	110.7	43.3	422.2
Exports	8.0	59.2	117.8	38.0	24.6	117.9	29.5	395.0
Turnover	16.0	116.7	237.9	92.5	52.8	228.7	72.8	817.4
<u>1949</u>								
Imports	10.0	53.0	197.5	104.8	55.2	140.2	90.0	650.7
Exports	10.0	55.0	182.6	104.8	50.8	140.2	90.0	633.4
Turnover	20.0	108.0	380.1	209.6	106.0	280.4	180.0	1,284.1
<u>1950</u>								
Imports	11.0	51.0	224.0	164.4	71.2	159.2	117.0	797.8
Exports	11.0	67.0	192.0	162.4	58.7	179.1	117.0	787.2
Turnover	22.0	118.0	416.0	326.8	129.9	338.3	234.0	1,585.0
<u>1951</u>								
Imports	12.0	66.9	240.0	330.0	117.1	190.0	119.7	1,075.7
Exports	12.0	86.4	280.0	272.0	111.2	235.0	122.3	1,119.1
Turnover	24.0	153.3	520.0	602.0	228.3	425.0	242.2	2,194.8
<u>1952</u>								
Turnover	n.a.	187.0	629.0	639.0	254.0	528.0	295.0	2,532.0
<u>1953</u>								
Turnover	n.a.	224.0	684.0	891.0	319.0	594.0	320.0	3,032.0

Table 9. GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF USSR TRADE WITH THE BLOC^{a/} (continued)
(In millions of current dollars)

	Far East ^{b/}				Sum Total	Alt. Total ^{c/}
	Communist China	North Korea	Sub-total			
<u>1928</u>						
Imports	29.4	n.a.	29.4	90.1		
Exports	16.4	n.a.	16.4	62.3		
Turnover	45.8	n.a.	45.8	152.4		
<u>1937</u>						
Imports	8.8	n.a.	8.8	30.4		
Exports	8.4	n.a.	8.4	30.4		
Turnover	17.2	n.a.	17.2	60.8		
<u>1948</u>						
Imports	3.9	24.2	28.1	450.3		
Exports	1.8	25.7	27.5	422.5		
Turnover	5.7	49.9	55.6	873.0		
<u>1949</u>						
Imports	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	650.7		
Exports	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	633.4		
Turnover	n.a.	63.5	63.5	1,347.6		
<u>1950</u>						
Imports	150.0	n.a.	150.0	947.8		
Exports	103.0	n.a.	103.0	890.2		
Turnover	253.0	171.0	424.0	2,009.0		
<u>1951</u>						
Imports	410.0	n.a.	410.0	1,485.7		
Exports	610.0	n.a.	610.0	1,729.1		
Turnover	1,020.0	n.a.	1,020.0	3,214.8		3,721.9
<u>1952</u>						
Turnover	960.0	n.a.	960.0	3,492.0		4,251.6
<u>1953</u>						
Turnover	1,215.0	n.a.	1,215.0	4,247.0		4,947.2

See next page for footnotes.

Table 9. GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF USSR TRADE WITH THE BLOC^{a/}
(In millions of current dollars)

Footnotes

a. As noted in the Appendix, data in this table are based on miscellaneous statements in official bloc publications.

b. Excludes Outer Mongolia.

c. These are alternative trade turnover figures, based on official statements of total Soviet trade rather than a sum of trade values for individual countries (see Appendix).

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Table 10. PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF USSR FOREIGN TRADE TURNOVER
WITH OTHER BLOC COUNTRIES - 1928, 1937, 1949-53

	1928	1937	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
<u>European Satellites</u>								
Albania	--	--	1.8	1.5	1.1	0.7	n.a.	n.a.
Bulgaria	--	--	13.4	8.0	5.9	4.8	5.4	5.3
Czechoslovakia	10.3	16.0	27.3	28.2	20.7	16.2	18.0	16.1
East Germany	47.1	46.7	10.6	15.6	16.3	18.7	18.3	21.0
Hungary	--	--	6.0	7.9	6.5	7.1	7.3	7.5
Poland	12.6	9.0	26.2	20.8	16.8	13.2	15.1	14.0
Rumania	--	--	8.3	13.4	11.6	7.5	8.4	7.5
Sub-Total	70.0	71.7	93.6	95.4	78.9	68.2	72.5	71.4
<u>Far Eastern Area^{a/}</u>								
Communist China	30.0	28.3	0.7	n.a.	12.6	31.7	27.5	28.6
North Korea	n.a.	n.a.	5.7	4.7	8.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Sub-total	30.0	28.3	6.4	4.7	21.1	31.7	27.5	28.6
Total ^{b/}	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

a. Excludes Outer Mongolia.

b. Because of rounding, columns will not necessarily add up to 100 percent.

State - FD, Wash., D.C.